

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A deck of a tape recorder comprising:
a deck chassis; a tape cassette housing; and
a locking device for the tape cassette housing of the tape recorder, which comprises:
a locking lever connected to the tape cassette housing when the tape cassette housing is both received in and removed from the deck chassis;
a locking recess formed within the locking lever; and
a locking protrusion, comprising at least one edge formed at an outer surface such that the at least one edge comes into contact with a corner of the locking recess when the tape cassette housing is locked onto the deck chassis, and at least one edge of the locking protrusion being integrally formed as one piece with the deck chassis.
2. canceled
3. (currently amended) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:
a top end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.
4. (currently amended) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:
a side end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.
5. (currently amended) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the locking recess comprises:
the corner being adapted to contact the at least one edge of the locking protrusion to mate the locking recess with the locking protrusion thereby locking the tape cassette housing.

6. (original) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 1, wherein:
the locking lever comprises an unlocking protrusion; and
the deck chassis comprises an unlocking switch and an unlocking lever, the combination of the unlocking protrusion, unlocking switch and unlocking lever are adapted to release the tape cassette housing after it is locked by sliding the unlocking switch to move the unlocking lever, which contacts the unlocking protrusion which contacts and causes the locking lever to rotate and unlock from a locked condition by releasing the locking protrusion from the locking recess.

7. (original) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 1, wherein:
the locking lever further is adapted to pivot within a range determined by a regulating protrusion and a second hinge, and hinged to a side of the tape cassette housing by a first hinge, and connected to a first link member by a resilient member, the resilient member adapted to allow the tape cassette housing to resiliently ascend and descend within the deck chassis.

8. (currently amended) A locking device of a tape cassette housing of a tape recorder, comprising:

a locking recess formed within a locking lever, the locking lever being directly connected to the tape cassette housing when the tape cassette housing is both received in and removed from the tape recorder; and

a locking protrusion, comprising at least one edge formed at an outer surface such that the at least one edge comes into contact with a corner of the locking recess when the tape cassette housing is locked onto a deck chassis, and at least one edge of the locking protrusion being integrally formed as one piece with the deck chassis.

9. canceled

10. (previously amended) The locking device according to claim 8, wherein the locking recess comprises:

the corner being adapted to contact the at least one edge to mate the locking recess with the locking protrusion thereby locking the tape cassette housing.

11. (previously amended) The locking device according to claim 8 further comprising:
an unlocking protrusion; and

wherein the deck chassis comprises an unlocking switch and an unlocking lever, the combination of the unlocking protrusion, unlocking switch and unlocking lever are adapted to release the tape cassette housing after it is locked by sliding the unlocking switch to move the unlocking lever, which contacts the unlocking protrusion which contacts and causes the locking lever to rotate and unlock from a locked condition by releasing the locking protrusion from the locking recess.

12. (previously amended) The locking device according to claim 8 adapted to pivot within a range determined by a regulating protrusion and a second hinge, and hinged to a side of the tape cassette housing by a first hinge, and connected to a first link member by a resilient member, the resilient member adapted to allow the tape cassette housing to resiliently ascend and descend within the deck chassis.

13. canceled

14. (currently amended) A locking device for a tape cassette housing of a tape recorder comprising:

a locking lever connected to the tape cassette housing when the tape cassette housing is both received in and removed from the deck chassis;

a locking recess formed within the locking lever; and

a locking protrusion, comprising at least one edge formed at an outer surface such that the at least one edge comes into contact with a corner of the locking recess

when the tape cassette housing is locked onto a deck chassis, and at least one edge of the locking protrusion being integrally formed as one piece with the deck chassis.

15. canceled

16. (currently amended) The locking device according to claim [[15]] 14, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:

a top end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.

17. (currently amended) The locking device according to claim [[15]] 14, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:

a side end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.

18. (currently amended) The locking device according to claim [[15]] 14, wherein the locking recess comprises:

the corner being adapted to contact the at least one edge of the locking protrusion to mate the locking recess with the locking protrusion thereby locking the tape cassette housing.

19. (original) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein:

the locking lever comprises an unlocking protrusion; and

the deck chassis comprises an unlocking switch and an unlocking lever, the combination of the unlocking protrusion, unlocking switch and unlocking lever are adapted to release the tape cassette housing after it is locked by sliding the unlocking switch to move the unlocking lever, which contacts the unlocking protrusion which contacts and causes the locking lever to rotate and unlock from a locked condition by releasing the locking protrusion from the locking recess.

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20. (original) The locking device according to claim 14 wherein:

the locking lever is adapted to pivot within a range determined by a regulating protrusion and a second hinge, and hinged to a side of the tape cassette housing by a first hinge, and connected to a first link member by a resilient member, the resilient member adapted to allow the tape cassette housing to resiliently ascend and descend within the deck chassis.